

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for initiating a collaboration between users, comprising:

receiving information pertaining to a call to a called party first user placed by a calling party second user;

sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the called party first user;

receiving a response to the notification;

sending a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the calling party second user based on the response, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party; and

connecting the call based on a response to the collaboration request.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information pertaining to the call comprises at least one of called number data, calling name data, and calling number data.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein sending a notification of the call comprises:

retrieving data corresponding to the called party first user using the information pertaining to the call;

selecting a device associated with the called party first user to receive the notification of the call based on the data corresponding to the called party first user; and providing the notification of the call to the selected device for display on the selected device.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the notification of the call comprises a user-selectable collaboration option.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the notification of the call is displayed on the device associated with the called party first user.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein sending a notification of a collaboration request comprises:

providing the notification of the collaboration request to a device used to place the call for display on the device used to place the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that [[a]] the collaboration is requested.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein sending a notification of a collaboration request comprises:

retrieving data corresponding to the calling party second user using the information pertaining to the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that [[a]] the collaboration is requested;

selecting a device associated with the calling party second user to receive the notification of the collaboration request based on the data corresponding to the calling party second user; and

providing the notification of the collaboration request to the selected device associated with the calling party second user for display on the selected device associated with the calling party second user.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the notification of the collaboration request comprises user-selectable options for accepting and declining the collaboration request.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising, prior to sending the notification of the collaboration request:

launching [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user from the perspective of the called party first user.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, the connecting comprising:
launching the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user from the perspective of the calling party second user, based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request; and
connecting the call between the called party first user and calling party second user.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, the connecting comprising:
launching the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling
party second user from the perspective of the calling party second user, based on a
determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request,
wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a voice connection.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, the connecting comprising:
launching the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling
party second user from the perspective of the calling party second user, based on a
determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request,
wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a videoconferencing
connection.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, the connecting comprising:
ceasing the collaboration launched from the perspective of the called party first
user based on a determination that the calling party second user declines the
collaboration request; and
connecting the call to the called party first user between the called party first user
and the calling party second user.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for initiating a collaboration between users,
comprising:

receiving information pertaining to a call to a called party first user placed by a calling party second user;

sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the called party first user;

receiving a response to the notification;

sending a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the calling party second user based on the response, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party; and

initiating [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein sending a notification of the call comprises:

retrieving data corresponding to the called party first user using the information pertaining to the call;

selecting a device associated with the called party first user to receive the notification of the call based on the data corresponding to the called party first user; and providing the notification of the call to the selected device for display on the selected device.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the notification of the call comprises a user-selectable collaboration option.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the notification of the call is displayed on the device associated with the called party first user.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein sending a notification of a collaboration request comprises:

providing the notification of the collaboration request to a device used to place the call for display on the device used to place the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that [[a]] the collaboration is requested.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein sending a notification of a collaboration request comprises:

retrieving data corresponding to the calling party second user using the information pertaining to the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that [[a]] the collaboration is requested;

selecting a device associated with the calling party second user to receive the notification of the collaboration request based on the data corresponding to the calling party second user; and

providing the notification of the collaboration request to the selected device associated with the calling party second user for display on the selected device associated with the calling party second user.

20. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the notification of the collaboration request comprises user-selectable options for accepting and declining the collaboration request.

21. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a voice connection.

22. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a videoconferencing connection.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, comprising:
connecting the call to the called party first user between the called party first user and the calling party second user.

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for initiating a collaboration between users, comprising:

means for receiving information pertaining to a call to a called party first user placed by a calling party second user;

means for sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the called party first user;

means for receiving a response to the notification;

means for sending a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the calling party second user based on the response, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party; and

means for connecting the call based on a response to the collaboration request.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the information pertaining to the call comprises at least one of called number data, calling name data, and calling number data.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, the means for sending a notification of the call comprising:

means for retrieving data corresponding to the called party first user using the information pertaining to the call;

means for selecting a device associated with the called party first user to receive the notification of the call based on the data corresponding to the called party first user; and

means for providing the notification of the call to the selected device for display on the selected device.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the notification of the call comprises a user-selectable collaboration option.

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the notification of the call is displayed on the device associated with the called party first user.

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, the means for sending a notification of a collaboration request comprising:

means for providing the notification of the collaboration request to a device used to place the call for display on the device used to place the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that [[a]] the collaboration is requested.

30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, the means for sending a notification of a collaboration request comprising:

means for retrieving data corresponding to the calling party second user using the information pertaining to the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that [[a]] the collaboration is requested;

means for selecting a device associated with the calling party second user to receive the notification of the collaboration request based on the data corresponding to the calling party second user; and

means for providing the notification of the collaboration request to the selected device associated with the calling party second user for display on the selected device associated with the calling party second user.

31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the notification of the collaboration request comprises user-selectable options for accepting and declining the collaboration request.

32. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, further comprising:
means for launching [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user from the perspective of the called party first user.

33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 32, the means for connecting comprising:

means for launching the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user from the perspective of the calling party second user, based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request; and

means for connecting the call to the called party first user between the called party first user and calling party second user.

34. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 32, the means for connecting comprising:

means for launching the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user from the perspective of the calling party second user, based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request, wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a voice connection.

35. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 32, the means for connecting comprising:

means for launching the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user from the perspective of the calling party second user, based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request, wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a videoconferencing connection.

36. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 32, the means for connecting comprising:

means for ceasing the collaboration launched from the perspective of the called party first user based on a determination that the calling party second user declines the collaboration request; and

means for connecting the call to the called party first user between the called party first user and the calling party second user.

37. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for initiating a collaboration between users, comprising:

means for receiving information pertaining to a call to a called party first user placed by a calling party second user;

means for sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the called party first user;

means for receiving a response to the notification;

means for sending a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the calling party second user based on the response, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party; and

means for initiating [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request.

38. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 37, the means for sending a notification of the call comprising:

means for retrieving data corresponding to the called party first user using the information pertaining to the call;

means for selecting a device associated with the called party first user to receive the notification of the call based on the data corresponding to the called party first user; and

means for providing the notification of the call to the selected device for display on the selected device.

39. (Original) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the notification of the call comprises a user-selectable collaboration option.

40. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the notification of the call is displayed on the device associated with the called party first user.

41. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 37, the means for sending a notification of a collaboration request comprising:

means for providing the notification of the collaboration request to a device used to place the call for display on the device used to place the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that [[a]] the collaboration is requested.

42. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 37, the means for sending a notification of a collaboration request comprising:

means for retrieving data corresponding to the calling party second user using the information pertaining to the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that [[a]] the collaboration is requested;

means for selecting a device associated with the calling party second user to receive the notification of the collaboration request based on the data corresponding to the calling party second user; and

means for providing the notification of the collaboration request to the selected device associated with the calling party second user for display on the selected device associated with the calling party second user.

43. (Original) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the notification of the collaboration request comprises user-selectable options for accepting and declining the collaboration request.

44. (Original) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a voice connection.

45. (Original) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a videoconferencing connection.

46. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 37, comprising:
means for connecting the call to the called party first user between the called party first user and the calling party second user.

47. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for initiating a collaboration between users, comprising:

a memory having a program that receives information pertaining to a call to a called party first user placed by a calling party second user, sends a notification of the call to a device associated with the called party first user, receives a response to the

notification, sends a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the calling party second user based on the response, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party, and connects the call based on a response to the collaboration request; and

a processor that runs the program.

48. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~for initiating a collaboration between users~~, comprising:

a memory having a program that receives information pertaining to a call to a called party first user placed by a calling party second user, sends a notification of the call to a device associated with the called party first user, receives a response to the notification, sends a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the calling party second user based on the response, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party, and initiates [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request; and

a processor that runs the program.

49. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for performing a method ~~for initiating a collaboration between users~~, the method comprising:

receiving information pertaining to a call to a called party first user placed by a calling party second user;

sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the called party first user;

receiving a response to the notification;

sending a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the calling party second user based on the response, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party; and

connecting the call based on a response to the collaboration request.

50. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 49, wherein the information pertaining to the call comprises at least one of called number data, calling name data, and calling number data.

51. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 49, wherein sending a notification of the call comprises:

retrieving data corresponding to the called party first user using the information pertaining to the call;

selecting a device associated with the called party first user to receive the notification of the call based on the data corresponding to the called party first user; and

providing the notification of the call to the selected device for display on the selected device.

52. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 49, wherein the notification of the call comprises a user-selectable collaboration option.

53. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 52, wherein the notification of the call is displayed on the device associated with the called party first user.

54. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 49, wherein sending a notification of a collaboration request comprises:
providing the notification of the collaboration request to a device used to place the call for display on the device used to place the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that [[a]] the collaboration is requested.

55. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 49, wherein sending a notification of a collaboration request comprises:
retrieving data corresponding to the calling party second user using the information pertaining to the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that [[a]] the collaboration is requested;
selecting a device associated with the calling party second user to receive the notification of the collaboration request based on the data corresponding to the calling party second user; and

providing the notification of the collaboration request to the selected device associated with the calling party second user for display on the selected device associated with the calling party second user.

56. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 49, wherein the notification of the collaboration request comprises user-selectable options for accepting and declining the collaboration request.

57. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 49, further comprising, prior to sending the notification of the collaboration request:

launching [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user from the perspective of the called party first user.

58. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 57, the connecting comprising:

launching the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user from the perspective of the calling party second user, based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request; and

connecting the call to the called party first user between the called party first user and calling party second user.

59. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 57, the connecting comprising:

launching the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user from the perspective of the calling party second user, based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request, wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a voice connection.

60. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 57, the connecting comprising:

launching the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user from the perspective of the calling party second user, based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request, wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a videoconferencing connection.

61. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 57, the connecting comprising:

ceasing the collaboration launched from the perspective of the called party first user based on a determination that the calling party second user declines the collaboration request; and

connecting the call to the called party first user between the called party first user and the calling party second user.

62. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for performing a method for initiating a collaboration between users, the method comprising:

receiving information pertaining to a call to a called party first user placed by a calling party second user;

sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the called party first user;

receiving a response to the notification;

sending a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the calling party second user based on the response, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party; and

initiating [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request.

63. (Currently Amended) A method for initiating a collaboration between users, comprising:

receiving, at a device associated with a called party first user, notification of a call to the called party first user placed by a calling party second user;

receiving input from the called party first user indicative of a response to the notification; and

sending, to a service center, response information reflective of the response to the notification, wherein the service center sends a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the calling party second user based on the response information, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party, and initiates [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request.

64. (Currently Amended) A method for initiating a collaboration between a first user and a second user, comprising:

receiving, from a service center, notification of a collaboration request at a device associated with the calling party second user, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between a called party and a calling party, wherein prior to the receiving the service center receives notification of a call to a called party first user placed by the calling party second user, sends a notification of the call to a device associated with the called party first user, receives a response to the notification of the call, and sends the notification of the collaboration request based on the response to the notification of the call;

receiving input from the calling party second user indicative of a response to the notification of the collaboration request; and

sending, to the service center, response information reflective of the response to the notification of the collaboration request, wherein the service center initiates [[a]] the

collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request.

65. (Currently Amended) A device ~~for use in initiating a collaboration between users~~, comprising:

a memory having a program that: receives notification of a call to [[the]] a called party first user placed by a calling party second user; receives input from the called party first user indicative of a response to the notification; and sends, to a service center, response information reflective of the response to the notification, wherein the service center sends a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the calling party second user based on the response information, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party, and initiates [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the second user based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request;

a user interface that displays the notification of the call; and
a processor that runs the program.

66. (Currently Amended) A device ~~for use in initiating a collaboration between a first user and a second user~~, comprising:

a memory having a program that: receives, from a service center, notification of a collaboration request at a device associated with [[the]] a calling party second user, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively

between a called party and the calling party, wherein prior to the receiving the service center receives notification of a call to [[a]] the called party first user placed by the calling party second user, sends a notification of the call to a device associated with the called party first user, receives a response to the notification of the call, and sends the notification of the collaboration request based on the response to the notification of the call; receives input from the calling party second user indicative of a response to the notification of the collaboration request; and sends, to the service center, response information reflective of the response to the notification of the collaboration request, wherein the service center initiates [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request;

a user interface that displays the notification of the collaboration request; and

a processor that runs the program.

67. (Currently Amended) A system for initiating a collaboration between users, comprising:

a voice network;

a data network;

a device associated with a called party first user;

a device associated with a calling party second user; and

a service center operable to receive information pertaining to a call to the called party first user placed by the calling party second user, send a notification of the call to the device associated with the called party first user, receive a response to the

notification, send a notification of a collaboration request to the device associated with the calling party second user based on the response, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party, and initiate [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request.

68. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for initiating a collaboration between users, comprising:

an application server operable to receive information pertaining to a call to a called party first user placed by a calling party second user;

a notification server operable to send a notification of the call to a device associated with the called party first user; and

a network access server operable to receive a response to the notification, wherein

the notification server sends a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the calling party second user based on the response, the collaboration request being a request for a collaboration to share data interactively between the called party and the calling party, and

the application server initiates [[a]] the collaboration between the called party first user and the calling party second user based on a determination that the calling party second user accepts the collaboration request.